

Self-Advocacy – Scope of Work

Draft

Terms/Conditions

Will include in the RFGA the following:

Multiple years funding

Multiple awards to be made

Total available dollars to apply is \$300,000

Award date: Upon signature through September 30, 2014

Purpose

The Arizona Developmental Disabilities Planning Council (ADDPC), in developing its 2012-2016 Five-Year State Plan, identified Self-Advocacy (SA) as a key area of concern voiced by consumers, parents and professionals. Specifically, it was noted that persons with developmental disabilities in Arizona are actively seeking to represent their own interests by functioning as self-advocates as opposed to having others act on their behalf. Based on this finding, the ADDPC created the following Goal as part of its State Plan:

Build a self-advocacy alliance comprised of diverse advocacy organizations that is led by persons with developmental disabilities.

In working to accomplish this Goal, the Council completed two significant tasks in 2013 which involved,

- Completion of a statewide survey of existing self-advocacy groups to identify entities and also assesses development and sustainability needs expressed by organizations.
- Amendment of the State Plan to update objectives under the SA Goal, enabling the ADDPC to proceed with ongoing activities.

As part of amending the State Plan, the ADDPC recognized the importance of strengthening existing SA organizations as a prerequisite to developing a state-wide alliance. As a result, the following Objectives were created to encompass the necessary steps in supporting SA efforts in the state:

1. Enhance the leadership capacity of self-advocates and increase their involvement in civic and other leadership activities;
2. Strengthen the capacity of SA organizations to promote systems change;
3. Build capacity for SA in underserved and unserved areas of the state.

Tasks/Intent of Request for Grant Application (RFGA)

The ADDPC seeks to work with multiple contractors across Arizona to conduct outreach, build relationships and develop components of technical support that will develop and strengthen SA organizations to function effectively in carrying forward self-advocates interests and needs. Over the span of the contract period, grantees will lay the foundation of a future statewide alliance through technical support enabling SA organizations to function independently and create supports that maintain viability and sustainability. To accomplish the Objectives, applicants shall meet the following criteria:

- Applicant shall have the knowledge, expertise and capacity to be effective in outreach and work in underserved and un-served areas of the state, both urban and rural.
- Applicant shall develop and implement activities that are culturally and linguistically responsive and sensitive.
- Applicant shall address transportation barriers with solutions that lead self-advocates to having the desired services, supports and engagement in SA organizations.
- Applicant shall use of the existing analysis already completed by the ADDPC ("Report on Self-Advocacy in Arizona"), to identify and expand SA groups across the state that can potentially benefit from training/technical assistance to become more effective.
- Applicant shall develop training curriculum in self-advocacy, leadership development, and communication skills within the leadership of SA groups.
- Applicant shall implement evaluation methods to track the SA organizations ability assess organizational and individual member needs that when strengthened lead to improved organizational performance to reflect SA issues and bring about increased capacity and systems change.
- Applicant shall have the capacity to carry out critical functions such as curriculum development, training and education that addresses the specific cultural and educational needs of targeted SA groups; ability to organize, facilitate and report out on focus groups, public forums and other group activities; the ability to gather, organize and record data as required; the ability to manage funds including the design of a financial system to award mini-grant awards in the amount of 5-10K to identified SA groups enabling organizational development; and the ability to network with other grantees awarded under this RFGA to develop continuity and consistency in moving toward the development of a statewide alliance.

Strategies/Activities

The contractor may use one or more various strategies or propose new strategies, in developing their action plan to implement the Tasks that will meet the Objectives. The strategies listed below are not a comprehensive list:

- Outreach through various methods
- Training and Technical Assistance
- Supporting and Educating Communities
- Interagency Collaboration and Coordination
- Coordination with related Councils, Committees and Programs
- Barrier Elimination
- Systems Design and Redesign
- Coalition Development and Citizen Participation
- Informing Policymakers
- Demonstration of New Approaches to Services and Supports

Evaluation

Measures are from AIDD

Performance Measure for Self Advocacy

1. People trained in area related to goal/objective
2. People trained in leadership, self-advocacy, and self-determination
3. People trained in systems advocacy
4. People active in systems advocacy
5. People attained membership on public/private bodies and leadership coalitions.

Performance Measures for System Change

1. Programs/policies created or improved
2. Number of organizations/coalitions, partnerships involved in systems change
3. Organizations engaged in systems change efforts
4. Number of public policymakers educated
5. Number of public members reached